**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of the Claims**

Claim 1 (original): A search method comprising:

a) accepting search intent information from a user having a search intent;

b) creating a semantic taxonomy tree having at least one term representative of said search intent information;

c) augmenting said at least one term with at least one associated concept derived from at least one of said at least one term using existing terminological data;

d) associating a weight with at least one of said at least one term;

e) obtaining user preference intent for at least one relevance value;

f) determining at least one root term for said at least one term;

g) transforming said semantic taxonomy tree to at least one Boolean search query;

h) submitting at least one of said at least one Boolean search query to at least one searcher;

i) receiving at least one search result from said at least one searcher;

j) interpreting said at least one search result;

k) requesting at least one page specified by said at least one search result;

l) receiving at least one retrieved page;

m) generating ranked results by ranking said at least one retrieved page by applying at least one of said at least one relevance value and said search intent information to said at least one retrieved page;

n) presenting said ranked results to said user;

o) presenting said semantic taxonomy tree to said user;

p) accepting user feedback from said user; said user feedback indicating how well said search results addressed said search intent; and

q) using said user feedback to update said user preference intent for said at least one relevance value.

Claim 2 (original): A search method according to claim 1, wherein each term has an associated weighting factor.

Claim 3 (original): A search method according to claim 1, wherein at least one of said at least one associated concept includes at least one synonymous concept.

Claim 4 (original): A search method according to claim 1, wherein at least one of said at least one associated concept includes at least one antonymous concept.

Claim 5 (original): A search method according to claim 1, wherein said at least one relevance value includes at least one of the following:

a) a composite component;

b) a semantic component;

c) a categorical match component;

d) a search engine component;

e) an authority/hub component; and

f) a popularity component.

Claim 6 (original): A search method according to claim 1, wherein said at least one relevance

value includes all of the following:

a) a composite component;

b) a semantic component;

c) a categorical match component;

d) a search engine component; and

e) a popularity component.

Claim 7 (original): A search method according to claim 1, wherein said step of presenting said

semantic taxonomy tree to said user further includes the step of expanding or narrowing

the presentation by said user clicking on nodes of said taxonomy tree.

Claim 8 (original): A search method according to claim 1, wherein said at least one Boolean

search query is formatted specifically for a preselected searcher.

Claim 9 (original): A search method according to claim 1, wherein said page includes at least

one of the following:

a) a web page;

b) a document;

c) an image;

d) an XML document;

e) a semantic web document; and

f) data.

Claim 10 (original): A search method according to claim 1, wherein said step of using said user

feedback to update said user preference intent for said at least one relevance value uses a

neural network methodology with back propagation.

Claim 11 (original): A machine readable medium having stored thereon instructions that, when

executed by a computer:

a) accepts search intent information from a user having a search intent;

b) creats a semantic taxonomy tree having at least one term representative of said search

intent information;

c) augments said at least one term with at least one associated concept derived from said

search intent information using existing terminological data;

d) associates a weight with at least one of said at least one term;

e) obtains user preference intent for at least one relevance value;

f) determines at least one root term for said at least one term;

g) transforms said semantic taxonomy tree to at least one Boolean search query;

h) submits at least one of said at least one Boolean search query to at least one searcher;

i) receives at least one search result from said at least one searcher;

j) interprets said at least one search result;

k) requests at least one page specified by said at least one search result;

l) receives at least one retrieved page;

m) generates ranked results by ranking said at least one retrieved page by applying at least one of said at least one relevance value and said search intent information to said at least one retrieved page;

n) presents said ranked results to said user;

o) presents said semantic taxonomy tree to said user;

p) accepts user feedback from said user; said user feedback indicating how well said search results addressed said search intent; and

q) uses said user feedback to update said user preference intent for said at least one relevance value.

Claim 12 (original): A machine readable medium according to claim 11, wherein each term has an associated weighting factor.

Claim 13 (original): A machine readable medium according to claim 11, wherein at least one of said at least one associated concept includes at least one synonymous concept.

Claim 14 (original): A machine readable medium according to claim 11, wherein at least one of said at least one associated concept includes at least one antonymous concept.

Claim 15 (original): A machine readable medium according to claim 11, wherein said at least one relevance value includes at least one of the following:

a) a composite component;

b) a semantic component;

c) a categorical match component;

d) a search engine component;

e) an authority/hub component; and

f) a popularity component.


Claim 16 (original): A machine readable medium according to claim 11, wherein said at least

one relevance value includes all of the following:

a) a composite component;

b) a semantic component;

c) a categorical match component;

d) a search engine component; and

e) a popularity component.


Claim 17 (original): A machine readable medium according to claim 11, wherein said computer

expands or narrows the presentation when said user clicks on nodes of said taxonomy

tree.


Claim 18 (original): A machine readable medium according to claim 11, wherein said at least

one Boolean search query is formatted specifically for a preselected searcher.


Claim 19 (original): A machine readable medium according to claim 11, wherein said page

includes at least one of the following:

a) a web page;

b) a document;

c) an image;

d) an XML document;

e) a semantic web document; and

f) data.

Claim 20 (original): A machine readable medium according to claim 11, wherein said computer

further uses a neural network methodology with back propagation when said computer

uses said user feedback to update said user preference intent for said at least one

relevance value.

Claim 21 (cancelled): A search agent comprising:

a) a weighted semantic taxonomy tree elicitor capable of accepting search intent

information from a user having a search intent;

b) a weighted semantic taxonomy tree capable of storing at least one term representative of

said search intent information;

c) an ontology agent capable of deriving concepts from said at least one term using

terminological data;

d) a search preference elicitor capable of receiving user preference intent for at least one

relevance value;

e) at least one search preference elicitor database capable of storing said user preference

intent;

    f)    a stemming agent capable of determining a root term from said search preference elicitor

database;

    g)    a search broker including:

         i)    a transformer capable of transforming said weighted semantic taxonomy tree to at

least one boolean search query;

         ii)    a search submitter capable of submitting at least one of said at least one boolean

search query to at least one search engine; and

         iii) a search engine result receiver capable of receiving at least one search engine result

from said boolean search query submission;

    h)    a page request broker capable of retrieving at least one retrieved page specified by said

search engine result;

         i)    a web page rater capable of generating ranked results by ranking said at least one

retrieved page by applying said relevance values and said search intent information to

said at least one retrieved page; and

    i)    a presentation manager capable of presenting said weighted semantic taxonomy tree and

said ranked results to said user;

    j)    a user profile learning agent capable of:

         i)    accepting user feedback from said user; said user feedback indicating how well said

search results addressed said search intent; and

         ii)    using said user feedback to update at least one of said user preference intent in said at

least one search preference elicitor database.

Claim 22 (cancelled): A search agent according to claim 21, further including a spell check

agent.


a) A search agent according to claim 21, wherein each of said at least one term has an

associated weighting factor.


Claim 23 (cancelled): A search agent according to claim 21, wherein said terminological data

comes from an ontology engine.


Claim 24 (cancelled): A search agent according to claim 21, wherein said concepts include at

least one synonymous concept.


Claim 25 (cancelled): A search agent according to claim 21, wherein said concepts includes at

least one antonymous concept.


Claim 26 (cancelled): A search agent according to claim 21, wherein each of said at least one

relevance value has an associated user-assigned weighting.


Claim 27 (cancelled): A search agent according to claim 21, wherein said at least one relevance

value includes at least one of the following:

a) a composite component;

b) a semantic component;

c) a categorical match component;

d) a search engine component;

e) an authority/hub component; and

f) a popularity component.

Claim 28 (cancelled): A search agent according to claim 21, wherein said at least one relevance

value includes all of the following:

a) a composite component;

b) a semantic component;

c) a categorical match component;

d) a search engine component; and

e) a popularity component.

Claim 29 (cancelled): A search agent according to claim 21, wherein said weighted semantic

taxonomy tree elicitor, said search preference elicitor, and said presentation manager are

integrated.

Claim 30 (cancelled): A search agent according to claim 21, wherein said weighted semantic

taxonomy tree uses XML.

Claim 31 (cancelled): A search agent according to claim 21, wherein said at least one search

preference elicitor database includes at least one of the following:

a) a personalized evaluation rule base;

b) search engine preferences base; and

c) a component preference base.

Claim 32 (cancelled): A search agent according to claim 21, wherein said stemming agent is

capable of determining at least one said root term from said page request broker;

Claim 33 (cancelled): A search agent according to claim 21, wherein said presentation manager

can expanded or narrow said presented weighted semantic taxonomy tree by clicking on

nodes of said weighted semantic taxonomy tree.

Claim 34 (cancelled): A search agent according to claim 21, wherein said at least one boolean

search query is formatted specifically for a preselected search engine.

Claim 35 (cancelled): A search agent according to claim 21, wherein said page request broker is

capable of retrieving at least one retrieved page specified by said stemming agent.

Claim 36 (cancelled): A search agent according to claim 21, wherein said page includes at least

one of the following:

a) a web page;

b) a document;

c) an image;

d) an XML document;

e) a semantic web document; and

f) data.

Claim 37 (cancelled): A search agent according to claim 21, wherein said user profile learning

agent uses at least one neural network methodology with back propagation.

Claim 38 (new): A search agent comprising:

a) a weighted semantic taxonomy tree elicitor capable of accepting search intent

information from a user having a search intent;

b) a weighted semantic taxonomy tree capable of storing at least one term representative of

said search intent information;

c) an ontology agent capable of deriving concepts from said at least one term using

terminological data;

d) a search preference elicitor capable of receiving user preference intent for at least one

relevance value;

e) at least one search preference elicitor database capable of storing said user preference

intent;

f) a stemming agent capable of determining a root term from said search preference elicitor

database;

g) a search broker including:

i) a transformer capable of transforming said weighted semantic taxonomy tree to at

least one boolean search query;

ii) a search submitter capable of submitting at least one of said at least one boolean

search query to at least one search engine; and

    iii) a search engine result receiver capable of receiving at least one search engine result

        from said boolean search query submission;

h) a page request broker capable of retrieving at least one retrieved page specified by said

    search engine result;

    i) a web page rater capable of generating ranked results by ranking said at least one

        retrieved page by applying said relevance values and said search intent information to

        said at least one retrieved page; and

i) a presentation manager capable of presenting said weighted semantic taxonomy tree and

    said ranked results to said user;

j) a user profile learning agent capable of:

    i) accepting user feedback from said user; said user feedback indicating how well said

        search results addressed said search intent; and

    ii) using said user feedback to update at least one of said user preference intent in said at

        least one search preference elicitor database.

Claim 39 (new): A search agent according to claim 38, further including a spell check agent.

Claim 40 (new): A search agent according to claim 38, wherein each of said at least one term has

    an associated weighting factor.

Claim 41 (new): A search agent according to claim 38, wherein said terminological data comes

    from an ontology engine.

Claim 42 (new): A search agent according to claim 38, wherein said concepts include at least one synonymous concept.

Claim 43 (new): A search agent according to claim 38, wherein said concepts includes at least one antonymous concept.

Claim 44 (new): A search agent according to claim 38, wherein each of said at least one relevance value has an associated user-assigned weighting.

Claim 45 (new): A search agent according to claim 38, wherein said at least one relevance value includes at least one of the following:

a) a composite component;

b) a semantic component;

c) a categorical match component;

d) a search engine component;

e) an authority/hub component; and

f) a popularity component.

Claim 46 (new): A search agent according to claim 38, wherein said at least one relevance value includes all of the following:

a) a composite component;

b) a semantic component;

c) a categorical match component;

d) a search engine component; and

e) a popularity component.

Claim 47 (new): A search agent according to claim 38, wherein said weighted semantic taxonomy tree elicitor, said search preference elicitor, and said presentation manager are integrated.

Claim 48 (new): A search agent according to claim 38, wherein said weighted semantic taxonomy tree uses XML.

Claim 49 (new): A search agent according to claim 38, wherein said at least one search preference elicitor database includes at least one of the following:

a) a personalized evaluation rule base;

b) search engine preferences base; and

c) a component preference base.

Claim 50 (new): A search agent according to claim 38, wherein said stemming agent is capable of determining at least one said root term from said page request broker;

Claim 51 (new): A search agent according to claim 38, wherein said presentation manager can expanded or narrow said presented weighted semantic taxonomy tree by clicking on nodes of said weighted semantic taxonomy tree.

Claim 52 (new): A search agent according to claim 38, wherein said at least one boolean search

query is formatted specifically for a preselected search engine.


Claim 53 (new): A search agent according to claim 38, wherein said page request broker is

capable of retrieving at least one retrieved page specified by said stemming agent.


Claim 54 (new): A search agent according to claim 38, wherein said page includes at least one of

the following:

a) a web page;

b) a document;

c) an image;

d) an XML document;

e) a semantic web document; and

f) data.


Claim 55 (new): A search agent according to claim 38, wherein said user profile learning agent

uses at least one neural network methodology with back propagation.